



GEORGIA 4-H CODE OF CONDUCT

4-H'ers Name: _____ County: _____

School: _____ Grade: _____

BEHAVIOR STANDARDS

All rules and regulations governing 4-H program activities and events will be discussed with agents, leaders, and 4-H'ers. The Georgia 4-H Code of Conduct is valid for one year and applies to all activities coordinated through 4-H including local, county, district, state and national activities.

- 4-H'ers are expected to attend all sessions as part of a planned program exhibiting positive character and behavior including (but not limited to) trustworthiness, responsibility, respectfulness, caring, citizenship and fairness.
- 4-H'ers are expected to be responsive to the reasonable requests of the leaders and respectful of the needs for their personal safety and the safety of others.
- 4-H'ers should dress appropriately, use appropriate language and respect the rights of others.
- 4-H'ers may not use alcohol, drugs, or tobacco, nor be associated with or remain in the presences of others using the substances.
- 4-H'ers may not behave recklessly, engage in sexual misconduct, assault, threaten or harm another person nor may they misuse or abuse public or private property.
- 4-H'ers may have access to computers at UGA/CES offices and facilities. Computer use is for educational purposes. 4-H'ers may not access inappropriate websites.
- Realizing these guidelines are not "all inclusive" the University of Georgia Extension Staff reserves the right to make adjustments to these policies

CONSEQUENCES OF MISBEHAVIOR

4-H'ers and adults who observe a breach in the Code of Conduct should report the misbehavior to the appropriate leader. 4-H'ers misbehaving will have the opportunity to explain their actions to leaders in charge of the activity and may request a review board. The person coordinating the event may also convene a review board for the purposes of determining what has occurred and what disciplinary action should be taken. A review board will consist of one Extension faculty or staff member, two volunteers and three 4-H members. The Extension faculty member coordinating the event will serve as chairperson. Disciplinary action should only be discussed with those involved, their parents/guardians and their Extension leaders.

If the 4-H'er is found in violation of the actions listed below and receives disciplinary action issued through the review process, his/her parents/guardians will be notified, the 4-H'er may be sent home at the parents' expense and may be suspended from participation of 4-H events for a period of no more than 6 months

- Breaking curfew or disturbing the peace
- Unexcused absences from the activities of an event
- Unauthorized use of vehicles during the event
- Reckless behavior
- Use of foul or offensive language
- Possession or use of tobacco
- Breach of the 4-H Code of Ethics
- Remaining in the presence of those using alcohol, illegal drugs or tobacco

If the accused is found in violation of the items below, his/her parents/guardians will be notified, the 4-H'er may be sent home at the parents' expense and suspended from participation of 4-H events for a period of no more than 12 months.

- Possession or use of illegal drugs or alcoholic beverages
- Theft, misuse or abuse of public or personal property
- Sexual misconduct
- Possession of weapons or fireworks
- Unauthorized absence from the premise of the event
- Assault or personal harm

In extraordinary cases, the 4-H review board may recommend suspense exceeding those listed above.

If a 4-H'er wishes to appeal the decision of the review board, the 4-H'er must appeal in writing through the County Extension office. Appeals must be filed within 10 days of notification of the disciplinary action. The appeal is sent to the Program Development Coordinator of the 4-H member and the State 4-H Leader. If the district and state 4-H staff can not resolve the matter, an appeal board will meet within 30 days of the 4-H'ers request. The appeal board will consist of one Extension worker, two volunteers and three 4-H members.

Following any disciplinary action, the person coordinating the activity must provide written notification concerning the action to the 4-H'ers parent/guardian, the county Extension faculty and the 4-H Program Development Coordinator.

PARENT/GUARDIAN & 4-H'er AGREEMENTS Release Waiver of Liability and Covenant Not to Sue

I have read the Georgia 4-H Code of Conduct and agree to participate fully in all aspects of program activities. I understand the standard of behavior and agree to maintain such during 4-H programming.

4-H'ers Signature

Date

I have reviewed the Code of Conduct and agree to all of its provisions. For the sole consideration of the Cooperative Extension Service's arranging for participation in 4-H programming, I hereby release and forever discharge The University of Georgia, the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia, their members individually, and their officers, agents and employees from any and all claims, demands, rights and causes of action of whatever kind that I may have, either on my own behalf or in my capacity as a legal representative of my child, arising from or in any way connected with my child's participation in 4-H. I further covenant and agree that for the consideration stated above I will not sue the Institution, the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia, its members individually, its officers, agents or employees for any claim for damages arising or growing out of my child's participating in the program. I understand that the acceptance of this Release, Waiver of Liability, and Covenant not to Sue the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia shall not constitute a waiver, in whole or part, of sovereign immunity by said Board, its members, officers, agents, and employees. I certify that my child is participating in 4-H with my knowledge and consent. I have read and understand all of the above policies. I also give permission for photographs, videos, or audio tape of my child to be used for promotional and educational purposes by 4-H and the University of Georgia. I realize that these images may appear in print media as well as the Internet.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Phone

VALID FOR ONE YEAR FROM DATE OF SIGNING